Presentation to

City of Long Beach
Planning Commission Study
Session
May 19, 2005

## Aerial Photo



### Proposed Uses

- 16.7-acre parcel
  - o Home Depot Design Center 139,529 sq. ft.
    - Including a 34,643 sq. ft. Garden Center
  - o Restaurant 6,000 sq. ft.
  - o Retail 12,000 sq. ft.
- Total 157,529 sq. ft.

8' meandering sidewalk

Extensive landscaped setbacks

Min. 50' – 60'+









 Store designed to attract interior design clientele – not a contractor oriented store



Alternative store
layout, displays and
design center staff
located upfront to
feature interior design
products

- "Stores" within the store
- Neutral colors no orange racks







### Enhances Unsightly Area



- Development of this area will clean up an unsightly area
- Extensively landscaped project with rich architectural treatments

### Community Amenities





Dining and neighborhood services provided by the neighborhood serving retail on the front of the project

# Design Center Retail Shops



# Design Center Retail Shops



### Community Benefits

- Increase in sales tax revenue to the city
  - o \$2.5 million to General Fund in first 5 years
- Increase in property tax dollars to city/schools
- Substitutes high quality design center and neighborhood retail amenities for unsightly tank farm
- Meet local demand for a closer and more convenient home improvement design and garden center
  - o Residents shopping at Home Depot will keep Long Beach sales tax dollars in Long Beach



### SEADIP

- SEADIP Provision: 30% Open Space Requirement
  - o It is important to note that this is the FIRST project to be required to meet the 30% open space requirement due to previous projects in SEADIP using "creative" solutions and interpretations by former staff at the city
  - Team spent last year working with staff to identify solution and has gone to great lengths to identify one

### SEADIP

Solution: Upon approval, the Home Depot Design Center will acquire the vacant parcel adjacent to 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Kettering School

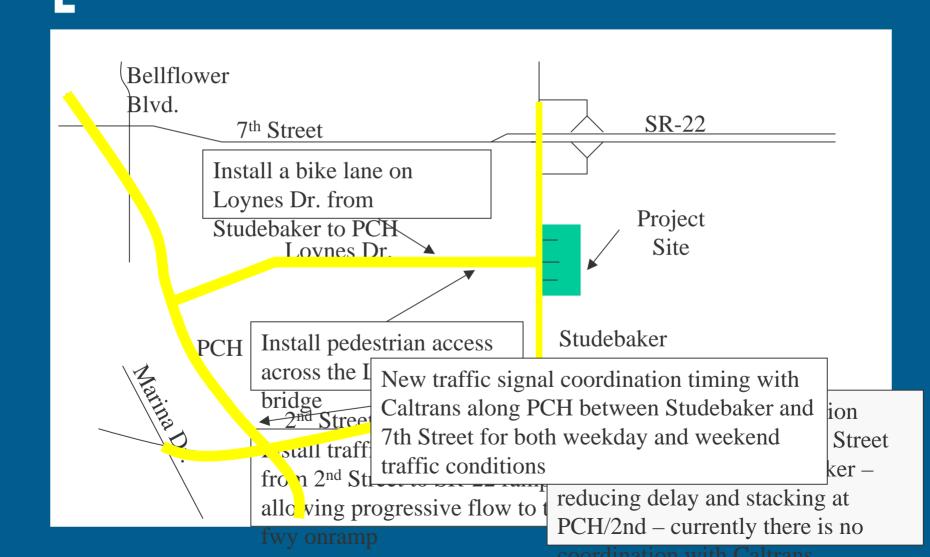


### **Benefits:**

- Provide link to existing trail and park along Los Cerritos Channel
- Landscape buffer between7th Street and Kettering
- Enhances entry to the city

- More than \$1 million in traffic improvements will be made in the project area
- Project traffic improvements will improve circulation and pedestrian and bicycle access in the area
- The project addresses <u>existing</u> traffic problems and provides improvements beyond required mitigation measures
- Traffic report in the EIR is conservative
  - Improvements to operational efficiency of key intersections

### Traffic Project Design Features





- Home Depot will support the Long Beach community through its associate volunteer program, Team Depot
- Each year, Team
  Depot associates give
  millions of hours
  nationwide to help the
  communities where
  they live and work





Home Depot has been active in the Long Beach community, having been a partner of South Bay Habitat for many years



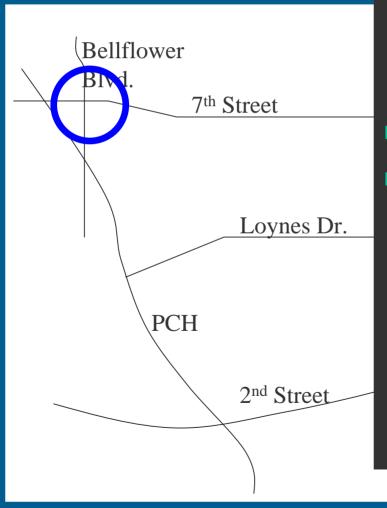


Home Depot has partnered with the City of Long Beach Parks and Recreation Department and the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim to refurbish and enhance a baseball field for local use in 2005

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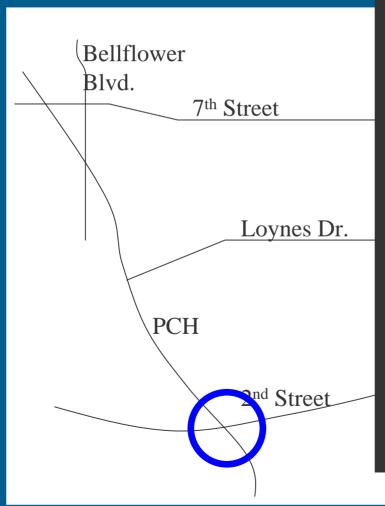
May 19, 2005



### ■ PCH/7<sup>th</sup> Street - weekend

- Due to right-of-way constraints, there are no feasible improvements
- Impact: Significant
- Traffic signal coordination timing with Caltrans will improve operational efficiency (currently there is no coordination on the weekends) however this is not quantified in the EIR, an improvement of 3% 5% can

Not To Scale

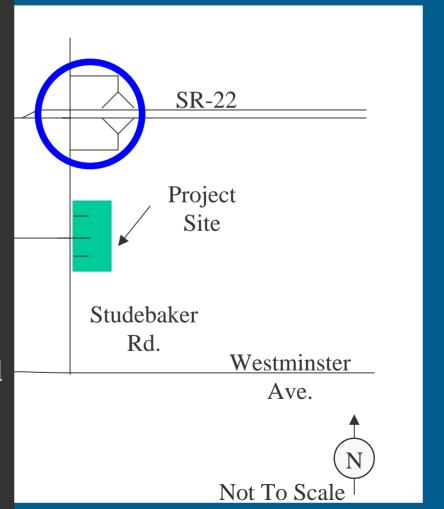


### ■ PCH/2<sup>nd</sup> Street - weekend

- Due to right-of-way constraints, there are no feasible improvements
- Impact: Significant
- Traffic signal coordination timing with Caltrans will improve operational efficiency (currently there is no coordination on the weekends) however this is not quantified in the EIR, an improvement of 3% 5% can be expected, thus

Not To Scale

- Studebaker/SR-22 westbound ramps - weekday
  - o "Caltrans has no plans to improve this facility...there are no feasible improvements at this location..." -EIR, p. 4.11-20
- Impact: Significant
- Traffic signal coordination timing with Caltrans will improve operational efficiency however this is not quantified in the EIR, an improvement of 3% 5% can be expected, thus mitigating impact



### Schedule

- EIR released for 45-day public review May 2<sup>nd</sup> and comment
- Planning Commission Study Session May 19th
- Planning Commission Hearing
  June
- City Council (if appealed)Aug/Sept

The EIR is available on the City's Web site: <a href="http://www.ci.long-beach.ca.us/plan/pb/epd/er.asp">http://www.ci.long-beach.ca.us/plan/pb/epd/er.asp</a>
Or, at the Long Beach Library, Main Branch, 101 Pacific Ave.





NORTH ELEVATION



### Current Entitlements

- Property is zoned General Industrial (IG)
- The City's General Plan designates the property as Land Use District No. 7, Mixed Use
  - o "Careful and synergistic blending of different types of land uses to vitalize an area and to support urban structure"
- Property is located within Subarea 19 of Southeast Area Development and Improvement Plan (SEADIP)

### Environmental Impact Report

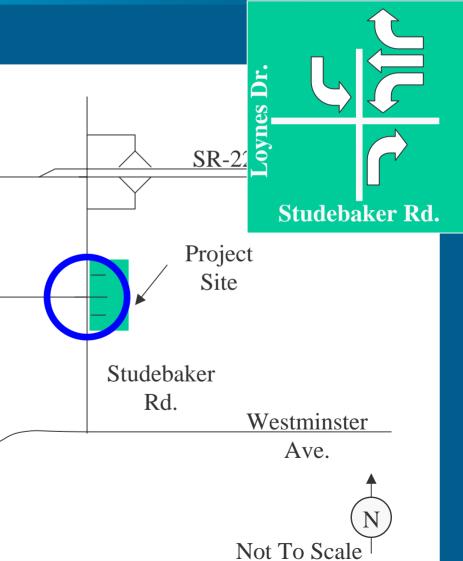
### Environmental Impact Report

- The City has released the EIR for the 45-day public review and comment period
  - o Comment period closes June 15<sup>th</sup>
- City contracts with a third-party company to prepare the report and oversees the process
  - Project proponent pays for the study, not the taxpayers
- Neither the landowner nor Home Depot has any influence over the EIR and how it is prepared
- EIR is prepared per California Environmental
   Ouality Act guidelines

### Traffic

- Project Entry weekday
  - Westbound left-turn lane, through-lane, right-turn lane
  - Northbound right-turn

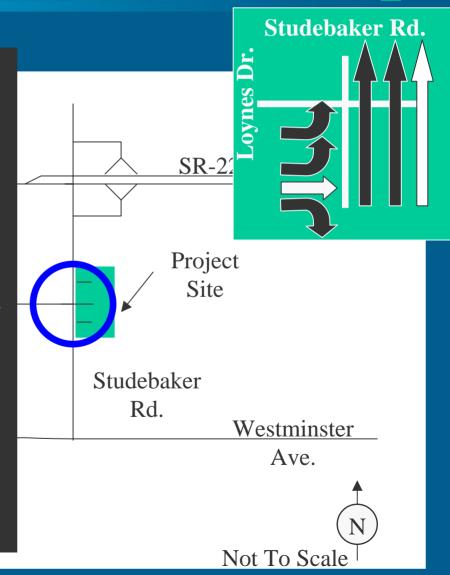
O South PCH left-turn lane
Impact: 1888 than
2nd Street



### Traffic

### Studebaker/Loynes – weekday

- Convert eastbound right-turn lane to an eastbound through lane
- O Change traffic signal phasing for northbound and southbound left-turn movements to protected-permissive turn movements
- Restripe northbound
   Studebaker Road b/w the south
   driveway and the SR 22
   eastbound ramps to provide

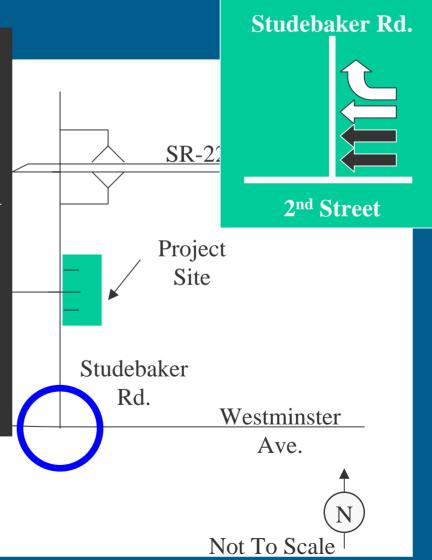


### Traffic

- Studebaker Road/2<sup>nd</sup>
  Street weekday/
  weekend
  - Convert existing westbound right-turn lane into a through lane
  - Construct an exclusive westbound right-turn lane

2<sup>nd</sup> Street

Impact: Less than



## Air Quality

### Air Quality

- The Basin is at a non-attainment status year round, and all projects subject to environmental review require a statement of overriding consideration on air quality
- "Because of the conservative nature of the thresholds in the Basinwide context of an individual project's emissions, there is no direct correlation of a single project to localized health effects. One individual project having emissions exceeding a threshold does not necessarily result in adverse health effects for residents in the project vicinity." EIR, p. 4.2-30

## Air Quality

"The potential for an individual project to significantly deteriorate regional air quality or contribute to a significant health risk is small, even if the emission thresholds are exceeded by the project. Because of the overall improvement trend on air quality in the air basin, it is unlikely the regional air quality or health risk would worsen from the current condition due to emissions from an individual project." -EIR, p. 4.2 - 30

### Hazardous Materials

### Hazardous Materials

- At no time will any hazardous material be released on- or off-site. The EIR identifies appropriate measures to be implemented to ensure the safety of the demolition and preparation of the site for development
- Demolition of the existing tanks will be done according to all local, state and federal regulations
- The Hazardous Materials that do exist are petroleum-based sludge in the existing tanks that will be safely removed from the premises and safely disposed of per federal and state regulations

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### Hazardous Materials

#### Methane

- "After rough grading and prior to building construction and utility installation, a detailed methane soil gas investigation workplan shall be prepared…based on results, additional mitigation design may be necessary, including…vapor barriers and venting systems beneath buildings and confined spaces." EIR, p. 1-20
- Impact: Less than significant

- Existing noise sources in the project area are transportation facilities and electrical generation plants
- Traffic on Studebaker and Loynes is the dominant source contributing to area ambient noise levels at the residences to the west



- Project noise levels are expected to be lower than traffic noise on Studebaker Road and lower than the nighttime city standard of 65 dBA therefore, there is no significant impact related to the Home Depot Design Center operations
- Outdoor eating areas will include a six-foot Plexiglas wall between Studebaker Road and the project
- Construction activities will be limited to:
  - 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday Friday and on Federal Holidays
  - o 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays
  - No construction is permitted on Sundays

### Light & Glare

## Light & Glare

- "Any potentially significant impacts from spill light and glare generated by the project are reduced to below a level of significance." EIR, p. 1-6
  - Parking lot poles will be designed with a reflector system to restrict light to the lower portion of the lighted area and turned off after business hours, with the exception of security lighting
- Impact: Less than significant

### Biological Resources

### Biological Resources

- Plants: No sensitive plant species or natural communities were observed at the project site or within Los Cerritos Channel (adjacent to the Loynes bridge) & none are expected to occur
- Wildlife: Burrowing owl surveys determined that burrowing owls are not expected to be yearround residents and are expected to be absent as a breeding bird
- Wildlife: No other sensitive wildlife species identified in the records search were observed at the project site & none are expected to occur

### Biological Resources

- Potential Jurisdictional Wetlands: no potential jurisdictional wetlands were identified at the project site or within the portion of the Los Cerritos Channel near the proposed sewer line
- Los Cerritos Wetlands: currently developed with industrial uses and separated from the Los Cerritos wetlands by a major arterial, no significant adverse impacts will result from sources such as traffic, light and noise – these sources already exists
- Impact: Less than significant

## Land Use

### Land Use

- "...retail uses in an industrial zone is intended to provide support services for industries and employees. In this way, the proposed project is consistent with the Strategic Plan (Long Beach 2010, the Citywide Strategic Plan) and will further the City's effort to preserve and enhance industrial opportunities in the area." EIR, p. 4.8-25
- Impact: Less than significant